

Abstract

A hair braider is provided and is configured to perform a three-bundle plait or braid and includes a body having a handle and a head portion at one end of the handle; a selectively actuatable drive source disposed within the body; and first and second rotatable rotors that are disposed within the head portion and are accessible through openings formed in the head portion. The first and second rotatable rotors are operatively coupled to the drive source through a plurality of gears such that the first and second rotors rotate in opposite directions when the drive source is actuated. The hair braider further includes a plurality of hair retaining members that are received within openings formed through the first and second rotatable rotors, wherein each hair retaining member has a bore formed therethrough for receiving one bundle of hair. In addition, a mechanism for transferring at a transfer location one hair retaining member from one rotor to the other rotor as the rotors rotate, wherein the initial arrangement of the hair retaining members within the openings. The rotation of the rotors in opposite directions and the successive transfer of one hair retaining member from one rotor to the other rotor results in a true, three-bundle braid being formed.